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comprises the step of illuminating the input zone with light having a predetermined wavelength and wherein the step of receiving the reflected light comprises the step of receiving only light having the predetermined wavelength.

**25.** The method of claim **18** wherein the step of correlat- 5 ing the electrical signal to the unique selection of character data comprises the step of comparing the received electrical signal to a stored database of character data signals to correlate the received electrical signal to the selected character data.

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**26.** The method of claim **17** wherein the objects within the input zone comprises one or more fingers of an operator.

**27.** The virtual data input device of claim **1** wherein the microprocessor is further programmed to allow the operator to establish a reference position within the input zone for the initial position of the plurality of objects and to then correlate the electrical signal to the unique selection of data with respect to the reference position.

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